

ART 34 AMDT

NI008

- 31 -

## CLAIMS

1. (Amended) A workpiece retainer comprising an adhesive composition containing a pressure-sensitive adhesive and a side-chain crystallizable polymer so that the side-chain crystallizable polymer is present in an amount of about 1% to about 30% by weight based on the adhesive composition,

wherein the side-chain crystallizable polymer includes as a main component thereof an acrylic acid ester and/or methacrylic acid ester which has a straight-chain alkyl group including 16 or more carbon atoms as a side chain,

wherein the adhesive composition contains a tackifier in an amount of about 10% to about 30% by weight, and

wherein the side-chain crystallizable polymer has a molecular weight of about 2,000 to about 15,000.

2. (Amended) A workpiece retainer according to claim 1,

[wherein the adhesive composition contains a tackifier in an amount of about 10% to about 30% by weight; and]

wherein adhesiveness of the adhesive composition, measured by a peeling force, is decreased by more than about 90% when heated above about 50°C, with respect to the adhesiveness when measured at 25°C.

3. [CANCELED]

4. A workpiece retainer according to claim 1,

wherein the adhesive composition exhibits sufficient tackiness with respect to a workpiece in a temperature range from room temperature to about 45°C, and is easily peeled off the workpiece above 50°C.

5. A workpiece retainer according to claim 1, wherein the

NI008

- 31/1 -

side-chain crystallizable polymer has a melting point which occurs within a temperature range narrower than about 15°C.

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NI008

- 32 -

6. (Amended) A workpiece retainer comprising:

a first pressure-sensitive adhesive layer on which a workpiece is to be attached;

5 → a support formed on a back face of the first pressure-sensitive adhesive layer; and

a second pressure-sensitive adhesive layer formed on a back face of the support,

wherein the first pressure-sensitive adhesive layer comprises an adhesive composition,

10 the adhesive composition containing a pressure-sensitive adhesive and a side-chain crystallizable polymer so that the side-chain crystallizable polymer is present in an amount of about 1% to about 30% by weight based on the adhesive composition, and

15 the side-chain crystallizable polymer including as a main component thereof an acrylic acid ester and/or methacrylic acid ester which has a straight-chain alkyl group including 16 or more carbon atoms as a side chain,

20 wherein the adhesive composition contains a tackifier in an amount of about 10% to about 30% by weight, and

wherein the side-chain crystallizable polymer has a molecular weight of about 2,000 to about 15,000.

7. (Amended) A workpiece retainer according to claim 6,

25 [wherein the adhesive composition contains a tackifier in an amount of about 10% to about 30% by weight; and]

wherein adhesiveness of the adhesive composition, measured by a peeling force, is decreased by more than about 90% when heated above about 50°C, with respect to the  
30 adhesiveness when measured at 25°C.

8. [CANCELED]

NI008

- 32/1 -

9. A workpiece retainer according to claim 6,  
wherein the adhesive composition exhibits sufficient  
tackiness with respect to a workpiece in a temperature range

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NI008

- 33 -

from room temperature to about 45°C, and is easily peeled off the workpiece above 50°C.

5 10. A workpiece retainer according to claim 6, wherein the side-chain crystallizable polymer has a melting point which occurs within a temperature range narrower than about 15°C.

10 11. A method for attaching/detaching a workpiece retainer according to claim 6 to/from a base plate of a polishing machine, comprising the steps of:

7 attaching the workpiece retainer to at least one of the workpiece and the base plate of the polishing machine maintained at temperature T1, and

15 detaching the workpiece from the base plate by heating the workpiece retainer at temperature T2 which is higher than temperature T1.

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